

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 EB-08 AID-05 AF-10 ARA-10
EA-10 EUR-12 HA-05 TRSE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00
ICAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 /124 W
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1453
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 09843

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: UNDP, PLO, XF
SUBJECT: 25TH UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL: ASSISTANCE TO THE
PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

REF: STATE 160900

1. US DEL IN PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS WITH UNDP ADMINISTRA-
TOR AND ROTHERMEL (EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE ADMINISTRA-
TOR) MADE POINTS CONTAINED PARA 4 REFTEL, STRESSING THE
SENSITIVITY OF THE ISSUE RAISED BY THE DISCUSSION OF
THE POSSIBLE ROLE OF THE PLO IN REQUEST OF ASSISTANCE
THAT MIGHT BE MADE AVAILABLE BY UNDP TO THE PALESTINIAN
PEOPLE AND THE NEED FOR CLOSE INFORMAL CONTACT BETWEEN
THE UNDP SECRETARIAT AND THE US ON UNDP THINKING CONCERN-
ING THIS MATTER AND POSSIBLE DEVELOPMENTS IN THIS RESPECT.

2. BOTH MORSE AND ROTHERMEL ASSURED US REPS THAT THEY
WERE FULLY ALERT TO THE POTENTIAL PITFALLS WHICH WERE
POSED BY THE ISSUE. MORSE JOKINGLY OBSERVED AT ONE POINT
THAT HE ALSO COULD CLAIM TO HAVE BEEN SENSITIZED BY A
CERTAIN AMOUNT OF POLITICAL EXPERIENCE IN THE UNITED STATES.
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THEY ALSO ASSURED US THAT THEY WISHED TO MAINTAIN CLOSE
CONTACTS WITH RESPECT TO POSSIBLE FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS.
WE NOTED THAT USUN WAS ALWAYS AT THE SECRETARIAT'S
DISPOSAL FOR THIS PURPOSE.

3. AS REGARDS THE SUBSTANCE OF THE MATTER, ROTHERMEL
STATED THAT UNDP'S CONTACTS WITH THE PLO AND THE

PALESTINE NATIONAL FUND WERE "MINIMAL" AND NOT INTENDED TO GO BEYOND DISCUSSION OF IDEAS FOR POSSIBLE PROJECTS. THERE WAS NO INTENTION TO ACCORD THE PLO ANY SPECIAL STATUS ON THIS REQUEST. IN FACT, THE UNDP WAS EXAMINING SUCH IDEAS WITH A NUMBER OF OTHER CONTACTS, E.G., THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF ECWA AND THE SECRETARIAT OF UNRWA. FURTHERMORE, UNDP HAD NO INTENTION OF USING THE PLO AS A CONDUIT FOR ASSISTANCE OR AS EXECUTOR OF PROJECTS. ROTHERMEL ALSO SAID, HOWEVER, THAT THE UNDP FELT THAT SOME MINIMAL GESTURES HAD TO BE MADE TO SATISFY PRESSURES FROM THE ARAB STATES WHICH WERE ACCUSING THE SECRETARIAT OF INACTION IN THE FACE OF SUCH RESOLUTIONS AS ECOSOC 2100. ROTHERMEL NOTED THAT A PARTICULAR CONCERN OF UNDP WAS THAT ARAB DISSATISFACTION COULD LEAD TO A MOVE AT THE GA TO HAVE THE UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL ESTABLISH AN IPF FOR THE PLO. THIS, IN THEIR VIEW, COULD PRESENT THE UNDP WITH A MOST SEVERE PROBLEM. UP TILL NOW, ACCORDING TO ROTHERMEL, THE UNDP HAD DONE MORE THAN "ENGAGE IN A DANCE" WITH THE PLO. IN RESPONSE TO A SPECIFIC QUESTION AS TO WHAT THE ADMINISTRATOR HAD IN MIND WHEN HE SAID THAT THE UNDP WOULD HAVE FURTHER CONVERSATIONS WITH THE PNF REGARDING THE PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED TO GIVE EFFECT TO RESOLUTION 2100, ROTHERMEL SAID IT "WOULD NOT AMOUNT TO MUCH" AND THAT A GOOD PART OF THE ADMINISTRATOR'S STATEMENT TO THE GOVERNING COUNCIL WAS INTENDED TO BE POLITICAL BALM TO HEAD OFF THE

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THREATENED DRAFT RESOLUTION ON THIS MATTER.

3. WE REITERATED OUR CONCERNS AND DESIRE TO KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH. VANDEN HEUVEL

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